



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/640,369	08/13/2003	Raymond Bertram	CNTR.2200	8458
23669	7590	09/02/2005		EXAMINER
HUFFMAN LAW GROUP, P.C. 1832 N. CASCADE AVE. COLORADO SPRINGS, CO 80907-7449			CHANG, DANIEL D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2819	

DATE MAILED: 09/02/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/640,369	BERTRAM, RAYMOND
	Examiner Daniel D. Chang	Art Unit 2819

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 August 2005.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-17 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) 1-11 is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 12-17 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6) Other: _____.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 12-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sprague et al. (US 6,496,038 B1, hereinafter, “Sprague”).

Regarding claim 12, Sprague discloses, at least in Fig. 2, a method of registering a logic function (220) and generating a non-inverted output signal (266), comprising:

pre-setting a first node (237) while a clock signal (CK) is in a first logic state (LOW);

evaluating a logic function to control the logic state of the first node when the clock signal transitions to a second logic state (HIGH);

driving a second node (267) to an opposite logic state (LOW) of the first node in response to the clock signal transitioning to its second logic state (HIGH);

maintaining (220) the second node at its previously driven logic state when the clock signal transitions back to the first logic state (LOW) from the second logic state;

driving a third node (output 230A) to an opposite logic state of the second node; and

driving an output node (266) based on the states of the first and third nodes (even though the first (237) and third (output of 230A) nodes are not directly connected to the output node, the output node (266) is driven BASED ON the states of the first and third nodes).

Regarding claim 13, Sprague discloses, at least in Fig. 2, that said pre-setting a

first node comprises pre-charging (235) the first node to a high logic state (when CLK=low).

Regarding claim 14, Sprague discloses, at least in Fig. 2, that said maintaining the second node at previously driven logic state comprises coupling a keeper circuit (260) the second node.

Regarding claim 15, Sprague discloses, at least in Fig. 2, that said driving a second node comprises:

pulling the second node (267) high if the first node (237) is low; and

pulling the second node (267) low if the clock (CK) and first nodes (237) are both high (if any of 211A or 211B are LOW).

Regarding claim 16, Sprague discloses, at least in Fig. 2, that said driving a third node (output 230A) comprises inverting (col. 8, lines 51+) the state of the second node.

Regarding claim 17, Sprague discloses, at least in Fig. 2, that said driving an output node (266) comprises:

pulling the output node (266) high if either of the first (237)and third (output of 230A) nodes is low; and

pulling the output node low if the first (266) and third (237) nodes are both high.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-11 are allowed.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 12-17 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel D. Chang whose telephone number is (571) 272-1801. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael J. Tokar can be reached on (571) 272-1812. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Art Unit: 2819

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Daniel D. Chang
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2819

dc

DANIEL CHANG
PRIMARY EXAMINER